

ie from a former conservative Republican governor, Tim Balcock, and a second by former liberal Democrat U.S. Representative, Pat Williams. There are political profiles of each Montana unit and Bannion has compiled enough election statistics to allow "political junkies" to find the figures that back up their opinions.



## Nancy's Country Market

Nancy Epkes, Owner  
218 Central Avenue  
HC 81 Box 5  
Hobson, MT 59452  
(406) 423-5441

January 15, 2007

To: The Joint Appropriations Committee On Long Range Planning

Re: Ackley Lake Rehabilitation Project

As the owner of a small family owned business, I would like to show my support for the Ackley Lake Rehabilitation Project.

Ackley Lake is a source of recreation for local residents as well as many others looking for a place to go boating, fishing or camping. I am always looking for ways to bring people to our community and Ackley Lake is a big draw to this area. All year around I see many people using the lake for recreational purposes.

The lake was established 70 years ago by the local water users, to hold water for irrigation purposes. Area farmers and ranchers have utilized the water and improved their crops.

I rely on these local farmers and ranchers to keep my business operating, as well as the people who come into our community to use the lake for recreational purposes. I show my support for this project and hope that you will approve the funding for this rehabilitation. This will help keep a small town and small town business thriving in these challenging times.

Sincerely,

  
Nancy Epkes

January 19, 2007

Jean Walker  
105 Carroll Trail  
Butte, MT 59457

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To Akeley Lake Board

Dear

to Chuck, Pres

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near-by areas.

Sincerely -

Bill & Marc French

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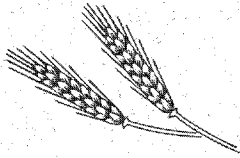
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Dale Longfellow  
Mayor

# Town of Hobson

Hobson Town Council  
107 Central Avenue • PO Box 251  
Hobson, MT 59452  
406/ 423-5428 • fax 406/ 423-5532



Bill Spratt  
City Clerk

Charles Thomas, president  
Ackley Lake Water Users Association  
Hobson, MT 59452

January 18, 2007

Mr. Thomas,

Ackley Lake is a great asset to the Town of Hobson. In the summer, boats behind pickups and cars are going through our town day and night. Many stop to shop at our little country market and to eat at our local cafe. In the evenings they sometimes grace us with their presence at our two local bars and eating establishments.

It's not just the vehicles with boats but a variety of vehicles, people going fishing, camping, picnicking, boating, water skiing and swimming. Some have their whole family with them. This is about the only place in this entire area that a person can go to enjoy so many recreational activities.

In the winter we see pickups and cars going to the lake to go ice fishing. There are a lot of large trout to be had if a person likes to ice fish. We also get their patronage in the winter too. Our local residents also enjoy all these activities as well.

So, as you can see, Ackley Lake is a vital asset to this community and closing it down for any reason would be detrimental, not only to Hobson, but to the whole State of Montana.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dale Longfellow, mayor



January 12, 2007



Charles S. Thomas Pres.  
Ackley Lake Water Users Association  
HC 81, Box 8  
Hobson, Montana 59452

Dear Mr. Thomas:

The Lewistown Board of Realtors supports your effort to secure funding for the rehabilitation of Ackley Lake Dam

The Ackley Lake project currently offers recreational opportunities to families in the central Montana area as well as many residents of Great Falls and Billings. During the summer months the banks are lined with campers, fisherman and boating enthusiasts. In the winter months, ice fisherman enjoy the outdoor opportunities this facility has to offer.

Central Montana is currently experiencing growth with many new residents moving to the area as they approach retirement. This facility will continue to grow in importance from a recreational standpoint.

Sincerely

Lewistown Board of Realtors  
Ron Combs, Pres.



Lic. # 14563

# Peevey Enterprises

P.O. Box 207 • Hobson, MT 59452 (406) 423-5247

Ron Peevey

Charles Thomas, president  
Ackley lake Water Users Association  
Hobson, MT 59452

~~July/August~~  
August 18, 2007

Mr. Thomas,

We are most favorable to the Ackley Lake Rehabilitation Project. Although I have only lived here for 11 years, my wife has lived here all her life and her parents all their lives. We all use the lake for a variety of activities.

When we have out-of-town visitors, Ackley Lake is always one of the places we take them. We use it for hiking, swimming, fly fishing, cast fishing, ice fishing, trolling, boating, picnicking, and even just sitting in our car at night enjoying the reflection of the moon over the water. We belong to the Utica Rod and Gun Club and we have an ice fishing derby there every year.

We love watching the pelicans flying over the water and diving for fish as well as the seagulls. The lake offers so many recreational activities that a person can really enjoy. This includes watching the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks.

Keeping Ackley Lake in good condition is a win-win situation for all of Montana as well as the water users.

Sincerely,

Ron and Julie Peevey

January 18, 2007

Charles S. Thomas  
Ackley Lake Water Assoc.  
Hobson, MT 59452

We hereby offer our support to the Ackley Lake Water Users Association to complete the rehabilitation project on Ackley Lake.

We are aware of the importance of this body of waters benefit to our county. The water is diverted to the lake from spring runoff and offers irrigation and recreational benefits enjoyed by many.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ray Brady", with a stylized, flowing script.

Ray Brady  
Jackson Brady Insurance  
Stanford, MT 59479





408 N.E. Main  
Lewistown, MT 59457  
406-535-5436

January 16, 2007

Joint Appropriation Committee on Long Range Planning

RE: Rehabilitation of the Ackley Lake Dam

Dear Sirs:

The Lewistown Area Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to the support and growth of the local economy.

The Ackley Lake Rehabilitation Project is a beneficial project to Central Montana as it will return the lake to full normal operation.

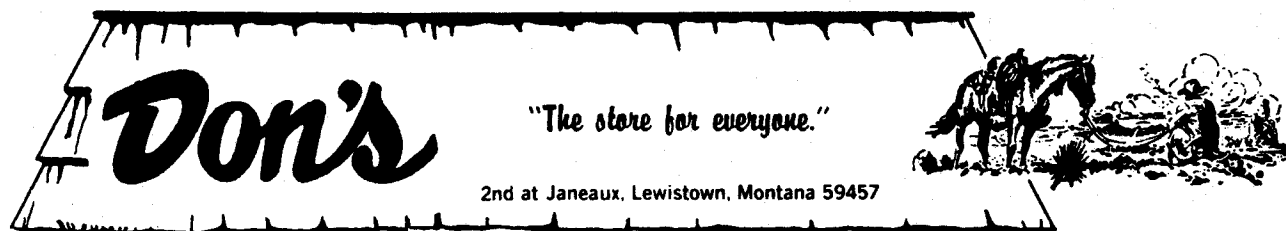
This rehabilitation will again allow camping and fishing to flourish at the Lake and that, in turn, will draw more dollars to flow into our area. A study from the FWP said that it was estimated that over 18,000 recreational visits a year occur at Ackley Lake.

Please consider this project as a high priority.

Sincerely yours,

Connie L Fry  
Executive Director  
Lewistown Area Chamber of Commerce.

*lewchamb@midrivers.com*  
*www.lewistownchamber.com*



To Whom It May Concern:

The water of Ackley Lake is some of the most used water that we know of in Central Montana. The Ackley Lake Water Users (ALWUA) grow exceptional crops in the area, but the recreational use of the lake is what generates the impressive numbers for us. Our family frequents the lake quite often and we talk to fishermen and boaters, who have made the trek from all over Eastern Montana. Eastern Montana is blessed with a number of good warm water fisheries but for those fisherman that want to fish for trout Ackley Lake is a stand out. The really nice thing about the lake is the accessible shoreline. Ackley Lake has a real easy grade with a gravel shoreline, which is perfect for everyone including seniors and children. This easy access, the excellent state camping facilities and two good boat ramps lead to huge recreational usage numbers for this lake.

So it is, with these agriculture and recreational numbers in mind, that we ask that the Ackley Lake Rehabilitation Project have money appropriated for the full rehabilitation of the dam. This is a project that has benefits for large numbers of Montanans and needs to be completed.

Sincerely yours,

Don's Inc., Lewistown Montana

Dale Pfau

Charlie Pfau

Don Pfau

## CENTRAL MONTANA YAMAHA & ARCTIC CAT

77669 HWY 87 W/ PO BOX 839  
LEWISTOWN, MT 59457  
PH 406 538 8494  
FAX 406 538 4015  
cmyac@wb.midrivers.com

January 15, 2007

Charles S. Thomas  
President  
Ackley Lake Water Users Association  
Hobson Mt, 59452

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you in response to your letter to the editor in the Lewistown News Argus in January 2007. It has been brought to my attention that Ackley Lake dam is in need of support for repairs to be done to insure it's continued use in our area.

As a business owner in the recreational vehicle industry, and in the Central Montana area I would like to voice my concerns on the need for the repair of such a valuable recreational asset.

As stated in your letter, Ackley Lake brings a large amount of recreationists and tourists to our area which boosts the amount of business our local vendors receive. Without this body of water people in our area would have to travel a considerable distance to access an alternate water recreation area. Local retailers would also see a drop in business if this problem is not addressed.

At Central Montana Yamaha and Arctic Cat not only do we sell equipment to be used on the water but we service boats, personal watercraft and boat motors. Ackley Lake is where we test all of our products for sale and repair. And where the majority of our customer go to use their new equipment.

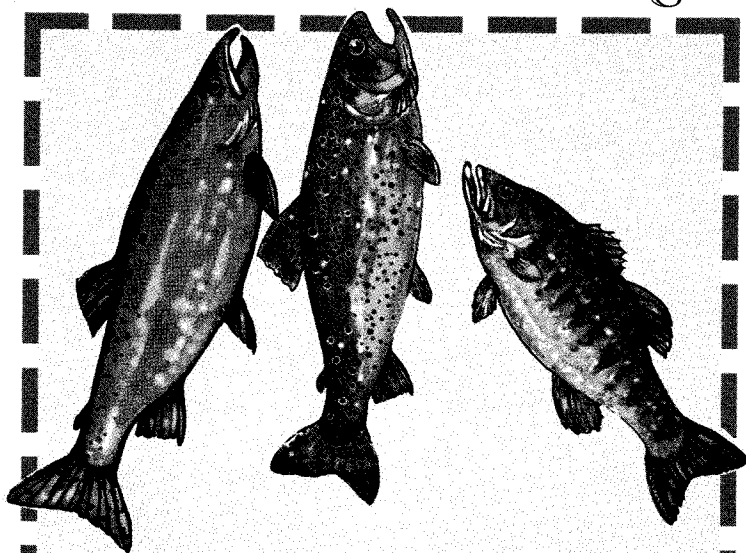
I would like to inform all those involved that you have our full support in the process of getting Ackley Lake the much needed repairs to keep it in operation, as it is a much needed resource to our area.

Sincerely,



Dan Killham, Owner  
Central Montana Yamaha and Arctic Cat

# Fishful Thinking

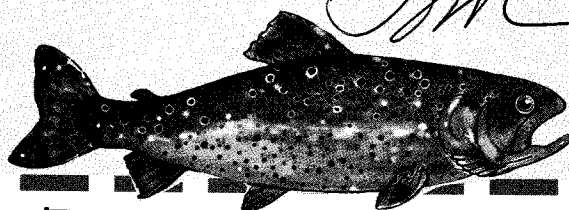


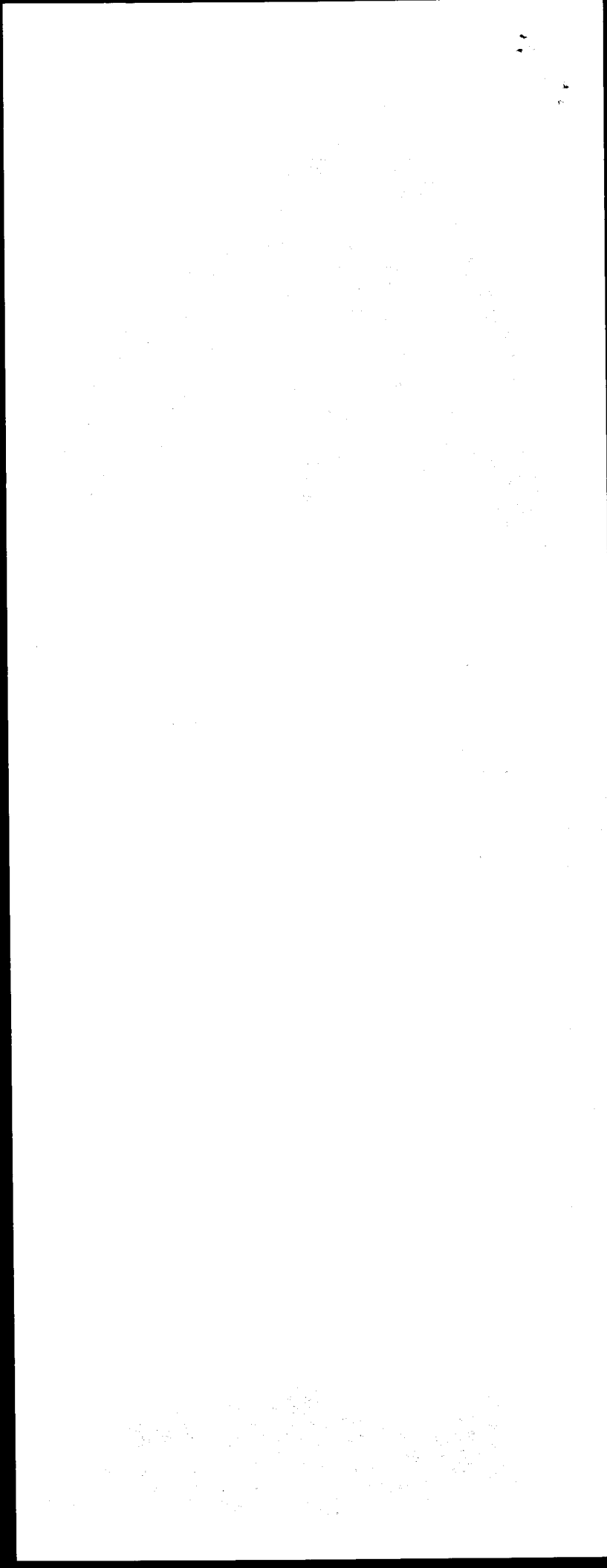
Mr Thomas

I went to all  
my 7 family members  
and had them  
then sign this  
Good Luck

Hope to see  
the Lake full  
in the future

Tom





We the Undersigned would like to see Ackley Lake back to full capacity, so that we can continue to picnic, camp and fish. Ackley Lake is one of the best trout fishing lakes in our area and it needs to be fixed for everyone to enjoy again. Not only for water users in the Judith Basin area, but the recreational purposes also. People from Great Falls, Billings, Harlowton, Stanford plus other cities and travellers use this lake. Many weekends it's hard to find a camping spot.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS--</u>	<u>PHONE NUMBER</u>
Ken Hines	318 Grand View Lewistown	535-7537
Ruth A Hines	318 Grand View Lewistown	535-7537
Jimmy Duncan	615 <del>FA</del> Farewell Lewistown	538-8915
Sarah L. Duncan	615 Farewell Lewistown	538-895
Donald Gregory	2536 Upper Spring Cr Rd Lewistown MT	538-5747
Levi Gregory	105 Joyland Rd Lewistown MT	366-2508
Ryan Gregory	922 E 12 Lewistown MT	366-9917
THERESA DICKSON	418 E Blvd Lewistown MT	535-8964
John A. Claver	418 E Blvd. Lewistown MT	535-8964
Lily A. Ginnin	107 Bootlegger TR. Lewistown, MT	535-3135
Charles A. Ginnin	107 Bootlegger TR Lewistown, MT	535-3135
Ronald E. Claver	418 E Blvd Lewistown MT	535-8964
Darl Butler	257 NE Roundhouse Loop Lewistown, MT	535-8124
Marilyn A. Butler	257 NE Roundhouse Loop, Lewistown, MT	59457